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ACT/047/007



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TO: The Board of Oil, Gas and Mining

FROM: Tom Suchoski, Engineering Geologist; Mary Ann Wright, Reclamation Biologist

RE: Stauffer Chemical Company  
Vernal Mine  
ACT/047/007

DATE: August 19, 1980

At the Board's April 23rd Executive Session, the Board approved a motion to attach two stipulations to tentative approval for Stauffer's Vernal Mine. Those two stipulations were as follows:

1. Stauffer must make a commitment that the impoundment which will be left upon final reclamation would be no larger than  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre in size.

To satisfy this stipulation, Stauffer submitted a map which indicates the area and size of the tailings disposal area which will contain 5 to 9 vertical feet of water.

2. Stauffer must submit to the Division the results of water analysis done on the liquid contained in the tailings pond.

Stauffer has declined to comply with this second Board stipulation. They state that they have had the water analyzed over the last several years and that "the water does not exceed the maximum concentration as set and is not hazardous."

The Division proposes to the Board to again ask Stauffer for copies of results of previous analysis of the tailings pond water. The repetition of this request is based upon the need for the Board to know the quality of the water which may come from the tailings upon abandonment. Otherwise, the variance for leaving an impoundment upon abandonment is granted without foun-

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dition for the protection of the hydrologic balance as required in Rule M-10 (3), (6) (8), and (11).

TS/MAW/bh

Enclosure: Stauffer reply and map dated August 1, 1980.